Pinal Active Management Area Modeling Update

Pinal Stakeholder Group

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Arizona Department of Water Resources



Alternative Assured Water Supply Model Run

- The Department conducted a 100-year projection model run with Analyses of Assured Water Supply demand set to zero
- Total Analysis of Assured Water Supply demand over the 100-year projection period in the published 2019 Pinal Model was 11,687,181 AF
- No other model assumptions or inputs were changed
- Assured Water Supply unmet demand in was reduced by 1,380,431 AF, from 1,969,950 AF to 589,519 AF in this 100-year
 projection model run

2019 Pinal Model Results

2016 - 2115 100 Year Total, Simulated, and Unmet Demand						
Sectors	Total Demand	Percent of Total	Simulated Demand	Unmet Demand		
	(AF)	Demand	(AF)	(AF)		
Analysis (AAWS)	11,687,181	14.49%	10,616,411	1,070,770		
Certificates (CAWS)	4,875,410	6.05%	4,609,484	265,926		
Designations (DAWS)	4,886,490	6.06%	4,253,237	633,253		
AWS Subtotal	21,449,081	26.60%	19,479,131	1,969,950		
Agriculture	48,573,365	60.23%	43,514,309	5,059,056		
Municipal	2,005,524	2.49%	1,952,338	53,187		
GRIC M&I	500,342	0.62%	500,339	3		
Industrial	2,329,255	2.89%	1,600,332	728,922		
Existing Uses	53,408,486	66.22%	47,567,318	5,841,168		
Subtotal						
Existing LTSC	1,169,993	1.45%	1,131,929	38,064		
Future LTSC	4,620,964	5.73%	4,382,316	238,648		
LTSC Subtotal	5,790,958	7.18%	5,514,245	276,712		
TOTAL (ALL SECTORS)	80,648,525	100.00%	72,560,695	8,087,830		



No Analysis of Assured Water Supply Model Results

2016 - 2115 100 Year Total, Simulated, and Unmet Demand						
Sectors	Total Demand	Percent of Total	Simulated Demand	Unmet Demand		
	(AF)	Demand	(AF)	(AF)		
Analysis (AAWS)	0	0.0%	0	0		
Certificates (CAWS)	4,875,437	7.1%	4,790,808	84,629		
Designations (DAWS)	4,886,484	7.1%	4,381,594	504,890		
AWS Subtotal	9,761,921	14.2%	9,172,402	589,519		
Agriculture	48,573,368	70.4%	46,011,206	2,562,162		
Municipal	2,005,522	2.9%	2,004,172	1,350		
GRIC M&I	500,339	0.7%	500,339	0		
Industrial	2,329,252	3.4%	1,704,304	624,948		
Existing Uses	53,408,481	77.4%	50,220,021	3,188,460		
Subtotal						
Existing LTSC	1,169,991	1.7%	1,152,844	17,147		
Future LTSC	4,620,964	6.7%	4,523,562	97,401		
LTSC Subtotal	5,790,955	8.4%	5,676,406	114,549		
TOTAL (ALL SECTORS)	68,961,357	100.0%	65,068,829	3,892,528		



Remarks by Clint Chandler, Deputy Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources, for the Pinal Stakeholder Group, June 28, 2021

While some or much of the significance of the results (presented moments before by Jeff Inwood, ADWR chief hydrologist) are readily apparent, we are also informed by the experience of many months and a series of discussions examining the model and related conversations. Director Buschatzke, Jeff, Ayesha Vohra and I one week ago met in person with the chair and co-vice chairs of this stakeholder group—i.e., Supervisor Miller, Bill and Jake—to discuss status. Of course, the magnitude of the unmet demand with the analyses reduced to zero received much of the attention as we evaluated circumstances. We had a candid, direct and constructive conversation. All of us representing ADWR, and it is my perception, the chair and co vice chairs, desired clarity regarding the challenges confronting us.

Director Buschatzke encapsulated the status quo when he told Supervisor Miller, Bill and Jake that "the days of utilizing native groundwater for development in Pinal are over, it's done." ADWR will not approve new assured water supply applications seeking to utilize groundwater within the Pinal model domain. The solutions include non-groundwater importation and direct delivery. In other words, those desiring to develop within the Pinal model domain will need to bring their own non-groundwater supplies.

These are difficult assessments, yet they aren't unfamiliar to those monitoring this situation over the span of the past several years. ADWR began to send deficiency letters referencing the lack of physical availability in the Pinal model domain in September 2017. The amply discussed model results put forward in November 2019 communicated much information regarding the scope and depths of the challenges in moving forward.

ADWR's administration of the statutes and rules giving form to the assured water supply program is an affirmation of Governor Ducey's commitment to these consumer protections. It merits emphasis the consumers protected are the current residents of Pinal County.

Supervisor Miller, Bill and Jake had a constructive approach during our meeting last week, for which the director is grateful. They can speak for themselves, but their desires for added clarity and for the identification of solutions not dependent on groundwater were helpful and appreciated. We also continue to appreciate that they enabled many opportunities for us to meet directly with stakeholders or to receive their questions and listen to their input through meetings with the leadership.

In going forward, Director Buschatzke specified an iterative process through which the Stakeholder Group will put forward proposals to ADWR. We desire solutions, too, and will respond as expeditiously as practicable. We look forward to continuing this work.